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1. Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Council of North and South America

General consultative status granted in 1985

Aims and purpose

The Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Council (GOAC) is an international organization having members and affiliated members in the United States of America, Canada and Central and South America. It is dedicated to supporting programmes in developing countries, such as Uganda, Kenya, the Republic of the Congo, Ghana, the Republic of Korea, Nigeria and the United Republic of Tanzania, and in other parts of the world.

A humanitarian and family-oriented body whose budget is based on family membership, GOAC is estimated to have 325,000 family members in the United States, 22,000 in Canada, 300 in Mexico, 600 in Panama, 4,500 in Argentina, 300 in Bolivia, 2,100 in Brazil, 900 in Chile, 300 in Colombia, 300 in Peru, 300 in Uruguay and 900 in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

GOAC is concerned with the United Nations principles of maintaining peace and security in the world, working together with the nations of the world to promote better welfare, education and health conditions, encouraging respect for individual rights and freedom, enhancing the status of women, protecting the environment, eliminating poverty and condemning racism and racial discrimination in the world.

Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, conferences and other United Nations meetings through attendance at meetings and oral and/or written statements

GOAC United Nations representatives regularly attend sessions of the Economic and Social Council and other conferences and meetings held by bodies of the United Nations.

GOAC United Nations representatives participated in all annual DPI/NGO conferences in the period 2001-2004 at United Nations Headquarters.

GOAC United Nations representatives attended the following meetings at United Nations Headquarters:

(a) Thirtieth to forty-second sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development (2001-2004);

(b) Forty-fifth to forty-eighth sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (2001-2004);

(c) Preparatory Committee for the Second World Assembly on Ageing, 26 February-2 March 2001;

(d) Special Session of the General Assembly-Overall Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the Habitat Agenda-Istanbul+5, 6-8 June 2001;

(e) Third substantive session of the Preparatory Committee of the General Assembly Special Session on Children, 11-15 June 2001;

(f) Special Session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS, 25-27 June 2001;

(g) Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Financing for Development, 14-25 January 2002;

(h) Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, 28 January-8 February 2002;

(i) Commission for Social Development acting as the Preparatory Committee for the Second World Assembly on Ageing Second Session, 25 February-1 March 2002;

(j) World Summit on Sustainable Development, August 2002. Focus on improving people's lives and conserving natural resources;

(k) Session on Preparation for 2003 High-Level Segment of the Economic and Social Council: promoting an integrated approach to rural development in developing countries for poverty eradication and sustainable development, April-May 2003;

(l) General Assembly, High-Level Meeting on AIDS, 22 September 2003;

(m) General Assembly, High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development, 28-30 October 2003;

(n) Commission on Population and Development, 22-26 March 2004;

(o) Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, October 2004.

GOAC participated in the following joint written statements of NGOs in consultative status:

(a) Thirty-ninth session of the Commission for Social Development, agenda item 3 (a) on enhancing social protection of the family and reducing its vulnerability in a globalizing world, February 2001;

(b) Fortieth session of the Commission for Social Development, agenda item 3 (a) on providing education for all children — especially the girl child, February 2002;

(c) Forty-first session of the Commission for Social Development, agenda item (b) on reducing poverty by capital investment and development of jobs for men and women, February 2003;

(d) Statement to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-sixth session from the NGO Committee on the Family on protecting mothers and grandmothers in their supportive role in the family, March 2002;

(e) Participated in Joint United Nations General Assembly Resolution that protects religious sites and cultural heritage around the world, 20 May 2001.

GOAC presented an oral statement on the virtue of tolerance and diversity at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, in August and September 2001.

Cooperation with United Nations programmes and bodies and specialized agencies

GOAC established medical clinics, schools and community centres in Kenya, Uganda and Nigeria in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). These social development programmes have expanded to include Ethiopia, Cameroon, Chad, Albania, Poland, Slovakia, Romania, India, Mexico, the Philippines, Indonesia, Costa Rica, Haiti, Guatemala, Madagascar and Iraq.

GOAC, in partnership with UNICEF, organized drives to build water wells in Africa, assist homeless and street children and promote child immunization and oral rehydration. Recent GOAC aid targeted children of Calcutta, India. Its donations to UNICEF amounted to $120,000 in the period 2001-2004. On 8 May 2003, UNICEF honoured Archbishop Demetrios for GOAC support and funding of UNICEF programmes.

In the field of disaster relief, GOAC cooperated with the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs to aid victims at the beginning of the tsunami disaster with financial contributions and 35,000 health and school kits, and donated $40,000 after the Indian earthquake, $20,000 to El Salvador earthquake victims and $15,000 in disaster relief to Guatemala and Mexico.

GOAC cooperated with United Nations on famine relief projects in Somalia, Ethiopia, the Sudan and Rwanda.

Other relevant activities

GOAC is a member of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status (CONGO) and a member of NGO committees on the family, youth, ageing, narcotic substance abuse, human rights, the status of women and freedom of religion and belief.

Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions

In implementing Economic and Social Council resolutions, GOAC is continuing to support groups and workshops throughout the Archdiocese to eradicate violence against women within the family. It conducts programmes to assist with drug prevention, AIDS and family problems. It continues its efforts to work with national coalitions to assist the homeless, set up food banks and provide housing for the homeless.

Preparation of papers and/or other material at the request of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies or of the United Nations Secretariat

At the request of the NGO Section of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, GOAC prepared and presented its MDG Success Story which will be published.

GOAC participated with the Division for Social Policy and Development and the Vienna NGO Committee on the Family in setting up an Interactive-Internet-Forum documenting contributions of civil society organizations to the well-being of families. The results were published.

Other examples of consultative and substantive activities, including financial assistance received from or given to the United Nations, field-level collaboration, joint sponsorship of meetings, seminars, studies, etc.

GOAC cooperated with UNHCR to help fund Albanian refugee centres. Other projects in Albania included setting up of nursery schools, orphanages, youth programmes agricultural projects, health and dental clinics, women's programmes and water projects.

As an original member of the NGO Working Group on the Family, GOAC promotes the strengthening of the family. Workshops and seminars have been conducted throughout the parishes worldwide addressing problems families face. In conjunction with the United Nations agencies, religious groups and NGOs, national and local government guidebooks, visual resources and social programmes were initiated in order to prevent family breakdowns. Workshops were also held on trafficking of women and children, forced child labour and forced recruitment of child soldiers.

The protection of the environment has been the topic of several symposiums conducted by GOAC at its Clergy-Laity Conferences in 2002 and 2004. Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew recently received the United Nations Environment Programme 2005 Champions of the Earth Award.

GOAC organizes and co-hosts annual orthodox prayer services for the United Nations community in New York City (2001-2004).

GOAC disseminates information on the United Nations through the *Orthodox Observer*, its newspaper; its Yearbook; E-bulletins; *Mission*, a monthly magazine; newsletters, radio and television programmes, a website, press releases and its conferences, at which seminars and workshops are held on United Nations resolutions. Its Communications Department produces videos on the United Nations, the family, the environment, drug abuse, etc. which are distributed worldwide.

2. International Council on Management of Population Programmes

Special consultative status granted in 1985

Organizational goals

The International Council on Management of Population Programmes (ICOMP) is an international non-governmental organization (NGO) dedicated to the achievement of excellence in the management of quality sexual and reproductive health programmes by serving the growing management and leadership needs of both the public and NGO sectors.

Main areas of interest

ICOMP concentrates on the following strategic areas: (a) Managing broader sexual and reproductive health concerns, (b) Strengthening management of sexual and reproductive health services, (c) Enhancing gender-responsiveness and improving the quality of care, (d) Strengthening adolescent reproductive health programmes and (e) Promoting a greater role for women.

The activities in the above areas include leadership and management development, enhancing organizational effectiveness, catalysing innovative programmes, promoting policy dialogues and managing knowledge for excellence.

ICOMP undertakes its programmes and services in relation to the work of the United Nations as:

(a) Participation in United Nations functions

At the 2002 Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference in Bangkok, ICOMP was present as an observer during the Senior Official and Ministerial Sessions and co-organized the NGO Forum. ICOMP also participated in events relating to the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD)+10 such as Countdown 2015 and ICPD+10 activities.

(b) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

Various projects and activities were implemented from 2001 to 2004 with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, as follows.

ICOMP provided technical assistance to the World Health Organization (WHO) in its regional project in Asia to promote strategies and strengthen institutional capability to implement The WHO Strategic Approach for Reproductive Health Programme Development from 2001 to 2004 under the Special Programme of Research, Development, and Research Training in Human Reproduction. Responding to the need to further develop, test and refine a unified methodology for field based strategic assessments of quality of care in reproductive health programmes, ICOMP also received joint support from the Rockefeller Foundation and WHO to co-develop a unified methodology framework in the period 2000-2004. During that time, strategic quality of care assessments in Yunnan, China and Rajasthan, India were successfully implemented. Furthermore, WHO funded the Asia Regional Workshop at Yunnan, China on the Strategic Approach for the Reproductive Health Programme Development in 2002.

With support from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), ICOMP carried out a project to accelerate implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development through strengthening reproductive health programmes in urban slums in two countries in Asia and two countries in Africa. During the period 2001-2004, to further contribute towards enhancing ICPD+5 benchmarks in reproductive health, a demonstration project was implemented at a site each in India, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Pakistan with support from UNFPA. The project also developed a methodology to realize the Millennium Development Goals.

In 2004, ICOMP is implementing a project to strengthen the strategic leadership of the reproductive health programme in Asia. UNFPA is supporting a regional network of institutions through ICOMP for this purpose. The UNFPA Mongolia office also supported ICOMP for strengthening reproductive health programme management from 2002 to 2003. Meanwhile, the UNFPA Indonesia office is supporting a project to strengthen policies and systems for reproductive health supplies security from 2004 to 2005. Furthermore, UNFPA is funding a project entitled "Violence against women: South-South to North mentoring" which began in 2004.

In 2003, ICOMP co-organized an international seminar on strategic leadership of the HIV/AIDS programme in Uganda with joint funding from the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), UNFPA, WHO, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

Under the World Bank's population and reproductive health capacity-building programme, ICOMP in 2003 and 2004 implemented a programme to improve the governance of NGOs in Bolivia, Ethiopia and the Philippines, where a toolkit was also developed and widely shared. For the period 2004-2005, ICOMP received further funding to increase the institutional capacity of reproductive health and HIV/AIDS NGOs, where it focuses on linked response to reproductive health and HIV/AIDS.

(c) Other relevant activities

ICOMP has also worked in the field of reproductive health with continuing and new projects for the duration of the period 2001-2004, some of which are indicated below.

From 1999 to 2004, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation and the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation supported The Asia-Pacific Alliance: Advancing the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action, whose small grant programme ICOMP facilitated, bringing together stakeholders towards increased support for population programmes, reproductive health and sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region.

The Rockefeller Foundation fosters collaboration in the areas of population and reproductive health among NGOs in Asia through its long-term grant to ICOMP, which covers the period 2001-2004. ICOMP carried out various South-South collaboration activities of the Asian South-South Facilitator NGO Network, including roundtable meetings, an international NGO forum and advocacy materials. This Network, comprising seven NGOs from four countries, was formed in 1999. It embraces the concept, ethos and philosophy of South-South collaboration as a worldwide strategy to improve family planning and reproductive health programmes through the sharing of experiences.

"Promoting public and private sector understanding and action to enhance sexual and reproductive health in developing countries" is a project that is being implemented in six countries: Mexico, Uganda, India, Bangladesh, China and Viet Nam. With the support of the Ford Foundation, ICOMP has successfully promoted public-sector and civil society organization understanding and collaboration in upscaling reproductive health innovations.

ICOMP, having had vast experience with women and gender programmes, embarked on the "Empowerment of women through strengthening comprehensive sexual and reproductive health programmes of NGOs in Asia" project with funding from the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland through Interact Worldwide, a United Kingdom-based NGO, formerly known as Population Concern, from 2001 to 2004. Implemented in India, Thailand, Indonesia and Bangladesh, it drew upon country-specific experiences and approaches to empower community women. Replicating this effort

in Pakistan, CIDA funded a similar project under its Capacity Development of Reproductive Health Programme from 2003 to 2005.

In its advocacy activities, ICOMP was supported by the Hewlett Foundation and the Japanese Organization for International Cooperation in Family Planning in co-organizing an NGO forum during the Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference, in Bangkok, in 2002. ICOMP was also a member of the International Initiative on Reproductive Health Supplies Consortium under the Mellon Foundation through the Program for Appropriate Technology in Health from 2002 to 2003.

Publications

In sharing and disseminating its experiences, ICOMP uses a variety of means, such as publications, a website, documentation of best practices, development of training modules, and in the near future, e-learning.

- With funding from UNFPA, ICOMP publishes its quarterly *Feedback* newsletter; *Series on Upscaling Innovations in Reproductive Health*; and the journal *Innovations* for population/reproductive health programme managers.
- As for keeping up with the advent of technology, ICOMP consistently enhances and improves its website (www.icomp.org.my) to be not only informative but also interactive.

3. International Shinto Foundation

Special consultative status granted in 2001

Organizational information

As an indigenous faith tradition, Shinto contains values and elements common to the majority of the world's ethnographical cultures and thus has much to contribute in the sharing of intercultural dialogue and exchange. The International Shinto Foundation (ISF) assists scholarly research in aspects of culture and religion at academic institutions internationally and cooperates with them in sponsoring projects and events. ISF has been cooperating harmoniously with other non-governmental organizations and the United Nations agencies in promoting human welfare and environmental sustainability.

ISF is a not-for-profit corporation, accredited by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government in Japan, as well as by the State of New York, in the United States of America, under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. ISF has its liaison offices in London, Moscow and Hangzhou, China.

ISF membership globally numbers 794 individual members and 15 organizations, in the United States, Asia (China and Japan) and Europe (France, Norway, the Russian Federation, Spain, Ukraine and the United Kingdom). Membership is open to any sympathetic organization or individual who wishes to participate in the philosophy, purpose and goals of ISF. Current members generally are associated with other cultural organizations, and tend to be scholars and researchers in the field of cultural studies.

ISF maintains cooperative relationships with institutes of Japanese cultural studies associated with various universities: School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London; Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy; University of Oslo, Norway; Moscow State University Institute of Afro-Asian Studies; University of California, Santa Barbara, and Columbia University, United States of America; and Zhejiang University, China.

Summary of activities

ISF develops its activities in the areas of culture, education, environment, food, human rights, indigenous peoples, international peace and security, religion (freedom of belief and inter-religious dialogue and cooperation), social development, sustainable development and water.

As a scholarly institution in Japan, ISF was invited to present a statement on behalf of Shinto on "Religion and globalization in the new millennium" at an international seminar held in Lisbon, on 1 and 2 April 2001, under the auspices of the North-South Center of the Council of Europe, which was attended by representatives of 11 different religions and a hundred NGO representatives from Europe, the Americas, Africa and Asia.

ISF has been observing the annual session of the Commission on Sustainable Development since 1998, actively assisting in the preparation of NGO documents for government delegations during the 2001 sessions. It sent representatives to the preparatory conferences for the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Bali, Indonesia, from 27 May to 7 June 2002, and the Rio+10 Conference in Johannesburg from 26 August to 4 September 2002.

Since 1996, ISF has been a participating member in the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Interfaith Partnership for the Environment, a group of religious NGO representatives meeting under the direction of the Director of the North American Office of UNEP. In 2000, the Interfaith Partnership assisted UNEP in publishing "Earth and faith: a book of reflection for action", a booklet of environmental information and religious references produced by the Partnership. In 2001, "Earth and faith" was presented to the United Nations community at a reception during the Commission on Sustainable Development sessions. ISF has also assisted in the distribution of this publication among its associates in the United States and Japan.

Since its accreditation as an NGO associated with the Department of Public Information of the United Nations, ISF has been sending its representatives to the annual DPI/NGO conferences and contributing to support the work of the NGO/DPI Executive Committee every year. ISF has maintained a good relationship with the United Nations Information Centre in Tokyo to disseminate various and important information on United Nations activities. Currently, ISF is endeavouring to make the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations known as widely as possible among Japanese people by publicizing related articles in its journals. The ISF website (http://www.shinto.org) is regularly updated with United Nations-related reports under the section "UN & ISF".

In 2004 ISF was honoured to be selected as one of the organizers of 31 Midday Interactive Workshops for the fifty-seventh annual DPI/NGO Conference, from 8 to 10 September 2004. As 2004 was designated International Year of Rice by the

United Nations, ISF entitled its workshop "Economic, social and cultural importance of the world's rice-consuming population". The ISF-sponsored programme included distinguished guest speakers Ambassador Lauro L. Baja, Jr. of the Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the United Nations; Dr. Florence A. Chenoweth, Director of the Food and Agricultural Organization Liaison Office with the United Nations; and ISF Board member Professor Toshinao Yoneyama from Japan. Dr. Hanifa Mezoui, Chief, NGO Section, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, played an important role as moderator of the workshop. In concluding the workshop ISF offered a statement appealing to like-minded civil societies to join hands in support of achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

ISF has been a member of the NGO Committee for the Decade of Indigenous People since 1998 and regularly attends its meetings in New York to assist in planning activities. From 1999 to 2004, ISF hosted a luncheon for participants in the annual celebration of the International Day of Indigenous People each August at United Nations Headquarters. ISF Director-General Yoshimi Umeda has also submitted statements each year on behalf of Shinto in panel sessions and supported the establishment of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, as a new advisory body to the Economic and Social Council with a mandate to discuss indigenous issues relating to Council concerns.

ISF has been a member of the Committee of Religious NGOs and a member of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Status with the United Nations (CONGO). ISF has been supporting and participating in the Annual Interfaith Service of Commitment to the Work of the United Nations to mark the opening of the Annual Session of the United Nations General Assembly in September every year.

Since 2000, ISF has been organizing the International Children's Day Celebration in New York City as a Shinto cultural presentation in accordance with the traditional Japanese custom of blessing for children's growth and future happiness. Children aged 7, 5 and 3 years, regardless of their nationality and religious affiliation, are invited to join this blessing. Every year the number of participating children and their parents has increased, reaching 150 families in 2004. UNICEF is the beneficiary of this event as a portion of the contributions received from participants is donated to UNICEF-USA.

From 8 to 10 May 2002 the United Nations held its first Children's Summit in New York. Initially scheduled for September 2001, the conference had been postponed following the 9/11 terrorist attack. Together with almost 3,000 delegates, including nearly 60 world leaders, ISF attended this three-day conference as an NGO with specific activity for children, as mentioned above, and assisted the Japanese delegation comprising various religious denominations.

ISF participated in The 3rd World Water Forum held in Kyoto from 16 to 23 March 2003 with a stakeholder's presentation on the theme "Rain and groundwater as heavenly blessing", under the auspices of the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology and in cooperation with the "Society for Thanking Rain and Water as Heavenly Blessing". The programme consisted of two parts: (a) a two-hour presentation of a scientific survey of "Religion and water in Japan" and (b) an exhibition of photographs, "Aerial views of sacred forests and groves in Megalopolis Tokyo". The first presentation showed the close relations between the traditional links with water of shrines and temples and modern water supply, by utilizing an abundant database on groundwater throughout Japan, as

investigated by the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST). The week-long ISF exhibition displayed 25 photograph panels of bird-eye views of Tokyo, along with geological maps, and attracted keen attention from the visitors concerning the relationship between woods and underground water.

On 21 September 2004, a "peace prayer" gathering was held in the chapel of the Church Center for the United Nations in New York as part of International Day for Peace, in which ISF New York Center Chief Officer Mitsutaka Inui participated by playing a musical piece on a Japanese flute.

In December 2004, ISF Director-General Yoshimi Umeda received a formal letter informing him that United Nations Headquarters had decided to accord him "representational status" on behalf of ISF with the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) for 2005. With this decision, ISF activities will be expanded to forge partnerships for African development.

4. Jaime Guzmán Errázuriz Foundation

Special status granted in 2001

Part I

Area of activity

The Jaime Guzmán E. Foundation is basically formed by male and female professionals who work in the areas of public policy, public opinion and young people's education. It includes lawyers, engineers, medical doctors, economists, journalists and architects. Most of them are young professionals. There are no restrictions based on age, sex, race or other similar considerations for membership of the foundation.

Organizational affiliations

The Jaime Guzmán E. Foundation is not affiliated to any group or organization. The main objective of this Chilean foundation is the promotion of the ideas, life and works of Jaime Guzmán throughout the different sectors of Chilean society.

Summary of the general aims of the organization which appear in its constitution or by-laws

The Jaime Guzmán E. Foundation is a non-profit institution whose main object is to broadcast the thought, life and works of Jaime Guzmán Errázuriz who was a prominent lawyer, university professor and Senator of the Chilean Republic, murdered by an extreme left terrorist group on 1 April 1991.

In order to carry out that task and with the purpose of contributing to the debate on different issues of national interest, the Jaime Guzmán E. Foundation periodically publishes studies and reviews prepared by outstanding researchers.

In addition, the Foundation promotes, among Chilean young people, the vocation to civil service, searching for spaces "to broaden" the principles and ideas

and contributing to the promotion of a free society. To achieve these objectives we sponsor young professionals to work in low-income municipalities, in educational establishments and in various areas in the private and public sector.

Likewise, the Jaime E. Guzmán Foundation provides professional advisory services to the National Congress by providing technical support to senators and deputies through legislative reports and "suggestions" for bills that are being discussed in the Congress, delivering periodical technical reports about different issues relating to public policies: education, health, agriculture, economy and housing policy, among others.

During these four years, the Jaime E. Guzmán Foundation has implemented a programme named "Jóvenes al Servicio de Chile". This programme has enabled more than 170 professionals to contribute to the administration of municipalities, especially low-income and high poverty municipalities, in the country. These professionals have worked in different areas: municipal administration, projects submitted for evaluation, health services, education and communication. This programme constitutes an alternative for professional development in the public sector whose results are seen as concrete achievements for all the community.

Part II

Activities carried out in the reporting period 2001-2004

General

Representatives of the Foundation participated in the twenty-seventh extraordinary session of the United Nations General Assembly on Children (New York, 8-10 May 2001). During this meeting, the Foundation's delegation participated actively in the debates carried out in the forum of non-governmental organizations.

Representatives of the Foundation participated in the Preliminary Meeting of the Southern Cone for the Global Meeting on Sustainable Development at the Headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and Caribbean (ECLAC) 14 June 2001, Santiago. This meeting was organized by ECLAC, the Division for Sustainable Development, and the Government of Chile.

In follow-up to the above-mentioned meeting, the Foundation issues a press release aimed at providing information regarding the position of Chile on this issue. For the same purpose, the Foundation organized several meetings with Chilean NGOs in order to inform them about the issues discussed at the meeting. It published documents entitled "*Carta de la Tierra*" (Earth Charter) and "*Cumbre de Desarollo Sostenible*" (Sustainable Development Summit) which were sent to the Congress in September 2002.

The foundation coordinated the work of various Chilean NGOs which participated in a meeting on women, ageing and gender at ECLAC Headquarters, Santiago on 5 June 2003.

The Foundation participated in the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council and the Bretton Woods Institutions meeting on 14 April 2003. This meeting was held in follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico from 18 to 22 March 2001, which had

been held because of the concern of the United Nations over the difficulty that poor countries must face in order to gain resources to achieve the eradication of poverty, and the goal of economic and social equity.

Other meetings

Representatives of the Foundation participated in several meetings organized by the Chilean Ministry of Foreign Affairs to evaluate the convenience of collaborating with the document on the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Likewise, collaboration was extended to the Chilean delegation in the preparation of its participation in Geneva (Santiago, December 2004).

The Foundation followed up the work of the working group charged with drafting a resolution concerning the cloning of human beings. The Foundation provided relevant information to the Congress for the use of the congressmen and also published articles in local newspapers. It followed up the discussion that took place in the Chilean Congress with a view to the passage of legislation in accordance with the position of the Government of Chile in the United Nations (2003-2004).

World Trade Organization (WTO)

Researchers of this institution participated in the forum to promote the approval of Convention 169 on Native and Tribal People (ECLAC, Santiago, 2002).

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Periodical meetings between researchers of the Foundation and representatives of UNDP were held for information purposes and in order to collaborate with the work of UNDP, which, jointly with the State Secretary, promotes the participation of citizens in public life to encourage democracy (2004).

5. International Women's Rights Action Watch

Special consultative status granted in 2001

The International Women's Rights Action Watch (IWRAW) was set up in Malaysia in 1993 to fill the gap between the promise of women's rights and their actual realization by promoting the domestic implementation of international human rights standards, in particular, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. IWRAW has a significant presence in South Asia and South-East Asia, and a growing profile in East and Central Asia, and the Pacific. It also works at the international level, ensuring that women are included in standard-setting processes.

In the period 2001-2004, membership of the Board of Directors rose from three to five persons. There was a change in the composition of the Advisory Committee when the members from Fiji and the Philippines stepped down. The former was replaced by a new member from Vanuatu, while the latter's position remains vacant. A new member from Japan, Miho Omi, also joined the Committee. In addition, the number of staff increased from 3 to 10 persons.

The primary funding support for IWRAW during this period came from: the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands (US$ 452,761); The Ford Foundation, Delhi (US$ 238,545); UNIFEM, New York (US$ 355,000); the UNDP Asia Pacific Gender Equality Network (US$ 165,358); the Danish International Development Agency (Danida) (US$ 250,238) and UNFPA (US$ 129,157).

Programmes

1. Capacity-building

(a) Training (General, training of trainers, training of lawyers)

To strengthen the domestic implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, IWRAW has been involved in training at various levels. This includes:

- Training of lawyers on the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto. Training was conducted at the national level in Nepal with the Forum for Women, Law and Development (7-22 November 2002); and in Bangladesh with Ain-o-Salish Kendra (2-5 June 2004).
- Training of trainers for the Pacific. IWRAW designed and facilitated this seven-day programme organized by UNIFEM Pacific for participants (government and NGO) from six countries (28 October-3 November 2003); and also in Nepal (3-7 December 2003), Sri Lanka (13-16 December 2003 and 18-22 December 2004) and India (12-16 May 2003 in Bangalore; 1-5 December 2003 in Pune; 11-15 August 2004 in Kolkata).
- "Regional training and consultation on the interlinkages between violence against women and the right to adequate housing". IWRAW organized this training and consultation with the Asia Pacific Forum for Women, Law and Development, the Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions and the Habitat International Coalition in India (28-31 October 2003). The Special Rapporteur on adequate housing was present at the consultation. At a similar meeting for the Pacific on women's right to land and adequate housing (12-15 October 2004), the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing was again present.
- "Training on the Convention for women activists". This training was conducted at the Centre for Comparative and Public Law, University of Hong Kong (27-29 May 2003).
- Training on writing a combined shadow report on the implementation of the Convention and for Beijing+10, co-organized with the Viet Nam Women's Union (6-10 November 2004).

(b) Technical assistance

IWRAW responded also to requests for technical assistance, in the following ways: (i) It gave direct technical assistance to the Governments of Mongolia, Maldives, Cambodia, India and the Lao People's Democratic Republic, either by helping them to prepare their reports on the implementation of the Convention or to implement recommendations of the Committee. This assistance was supported by agencies like UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA. Through UNIFEM Central Asia and Pacific, IWRAW ran training on the Convention for government officials from the

Commonwealth of Independent States (2003), and a mock session of CEDAW for the Government of Samoa (2004) prior to the review of its report by the Committee. IWRAW also gave technical assistance to the Government of Tajikistan to review the compliance of its laws with the Convention (2002); (ii) Since 2002, IWRAW has worked with UNIFEM South-East Asia to popularize the Convention in this region. It has given input on the framework of this initiative and taken part in several inception missions to identify needs and introduce this programme to key stakeholders in Timor-Leste, Viet Nam and Thailand. The programme is ongoing and full implementation commences in 2005.

2. Advocacy

(a) "Facilitating the fulfilment of State obligations towards women's equality"

Ongoing in South-East Asia since 1997 and South Asia since 1998, this project involves women's NGOs in 12 countries, with the long-term objective of developing a model for data gathering and monitoring the status of women using standards set by the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to facilitate implementation of this treaty. In the period 2001-2004, two regional meetings took place — on the rights of women in marriage, and the rights of women to participate in political and public life — utilizing research findings of the project's earlier phase. These meetings resulted in enhanced understanding of the issues, and strategies for further advocacy.

(b) "From global to local"

This initiative, run in collaboration with UNIFEM New York and UNFPA (UNFPA collaborated in the thirty-first and thirty-second sessions of CEDAW sessions in July 2004 and January 2005, respectively) enables local women activists from countries reporting to CEDAW to participate in the review process. IWRAW gives guidance on the writing of shadow reports, facilitates the presence of these women activists to observe the proceedings directly, and extends to them an on-site training and mentoring programme. In the period 2001-2004, through this project, around 90 women activists from almost 50 countries have contributed to human rights standard-setting, as well as monitoring and challenging their Governments to live up to their obligations under the Convention.

(c) CEDAW general recommendations

IWRAW collaborated with the Division for the Advancement of Women (2002) in conducting a workshop on temporary special measures under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. This contributed to the formulation of CEDAW general recommendation 25 in 2004. On 21 July of the same year, IWRAW took part in the day of general discussion on the CEDAW general recommendation and provided substantive input on the subject of State obligation.

(d) International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

IWRAW made an intervention entitled "The intersection of race, ethnicity and gender in the context of temporary special measures" at the day of general discussion on article 3 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and

Cultural Rights, on equality between men and women on 13 May 2002; participated in the "Montreal Principles" meeting (7-10 December 2002) organized by the Women's Working Group of the International Network for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to produce a document on principles to guide the interpretation and implementation of economic, social and cultural rights for women to enjoy these fully and equally; made a statement on the need for special attention to women's right to work, at the day of general discussion on the right to work (article 6 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights) (24 November 2003); and, together with members of the Steering Committee of the NGO Coalition for an OP-ICESCR, coordinated an international team that participated in lobbying efforts at the OP-ICESCR Open-Ended Working Group Meeting (23 February-5 May 2004) (Switzerland).

(e) Other United Nations human rights mechanisms

At the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights, IWRAW actively promoted two resolutions, one on the establishment of an open-ended working group on the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the other supporting the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women. These efforts continued the following year at the sixtieth session, with the organization making similar verbal presentations. Discussions were also held with the Special Rapporteurs on health, adequate housing and violence against women, to discuss possibilities for future collaboration. At the 2nd Inter-Committee Meeting (ICM) of United Nations Human Rights Treaty Bodies (Geneva, 18-20 June 2003), IWRAW presented a statement entitled "Enhancing the effectiveness of treaty bodies" and at the third meeting (Geneva, 21-22 June 2004), IWRAW intervened on ways to strengthen the implementation of State obligations under human rights conventions (see http://www.iwraw-ap.org/news_a.htm and http://www.iwraw-ap.org/news/icm.htm.) IWRAW also contributed initial comments to the draft guidelines for an expanded core document and treaty-specific targeted reports. It also took part in the Annual Meeting of Treaty Bodies Chairpersons and made oral statements on reform of the United Nations treaty body system (Geneva, 24 June 2003 and 22 June 2004) (see http://www.iwraw-ap.org/news_b.htm and http://www.iwraw-ap.org/news/icm.htm). In terms of United Nations conferences, IWRAW organized a panel on gender and racism at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (Durban, South Africa, 28 August-7 September 2001) together with the National Federation of Dalit Women and the Christian Dalit Liberation Movement. IWRAW participated in a follow-up meeting to the International Conference on Population and Development entitled "5th Asian and Pacific Population Conference" organized by ESCAP and UNFPA as well as taking part in various meetings at the Asian Pacific level relating to the Beijing Conference process.

3. Information dissemination and application

- The *website* <www.iwraw-ap.org> provides comprehensive information on the substantive aspects of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, as well as practical tips on how it can be utilized.

- "cedaw4change" is a moderated listserv that addresses women's human rights issues using the framework of that Convention and other human rights treaty bodies.

- *Publications*: IWRAW produced *Building Capacity for Change*, a training manual on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (2001); started an Occasional Papers Series to make available emerging discussions and debates related to women's human rights and the organization's areas of work and published three such papers in 2004; and produced many unpublished papers dealing with various aspects of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.